

CONFIDENTIAL

25 August 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with James W. Knowles, Director of Research, Joint Economic Committee

1. I talked further with James Knowles today about the article entitled "Technological Base of Soviet Military Power" written by Dr. Michael Boretsky, for inclusion in a Joint Economic Committee publication. I told Knowles that we did not want to get out in front on this but underscored our concern that it would be unfortunate if the subject of Soviet military procurement was beclouded by the Boretsky article. I said that Boretsky was using a methodology which we considered to be inaccurate and I pointed to the variance between several of Boretsky's figures and those agreed to by the intelligence community. I told him that we could make Dr. Ed Allen available to discuss the situation, or the Committee might want to consult other experts in the field such as [redacted]

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2. Knowles was shocked by the disparity between Boretsky's figures and those of the community. He said he would not be too upset if some of the other articles by authors like [redacted]

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[redacted] expressed different views, but he would be very much concerned if Boretsky's figures stood alone in the publication. After talking with Ed Allen I arranged with Knowles for us to borrow a copy of the page proofs of the Committee's proposed publication. Dr. Allen is interested in reviewing the [redacted] pieces in advance of his meeting with Boretsky and his superior this Thursday.

3. It was agreed with Knowles that since he did not have to send his page proofs to GPO until Monday, he would await the outcome of the Thursday meeting before anything further is done. [redacted]

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[redacted]
Deputy Legislative Counsel

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1 - Dr. Allen

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